

## ABSTRACT

The invention improves an apparatus for connecting trailing and leading end portions of respective two component holding tapes through a metallic connecting member having caulking claws. The metallic connecting members 40 are positioned by metallic-connecting-member positioning protrusions 148 on each of six metallic-connecting-member receiving surfaces 142 provided on an outer circumferential surface of a rotary body 140, and held by a magnetic force. First and second operating levers 68, 70 are operated, while the trailing and leading end portions of the respective two component holding tapes and the connecting member 40 are being positioned in a caulking position by tape positioning protrusions 86, 88 and metallic-connecting-member positioning protrusions 148, whereby a caulking tool 182 is caused to caulk the caulking claws of the connecting member 40. The rotary body 140 is rotated to move the connecting member 40 held by the metallic-connecting-member receiving surface 142, to the caulking position, so that the connecting member 40 is used for the next connection. The plurality of metallic connecting members may be held by a strip-shaped holding member, so that each of the connecting members is cut off from the holding member so as to be used for the caulking. The rotary body may be rotated in response to the operation of the operating lever, so that the connecting member is moved to the caulking position.